

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXI NUMBER 4

APRIL 2008



## EBARC Meeting

April 11, 2008  
7:30 p.m.

"Understanding S Meters"  
David Haycock, KI6AWR

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month  
at the Salvation Army, 4600 Applan Way, El Sobrante.

The Executive Board meets the Monday before each general meeting at 7:30 p.m.  
at 1123 Harrison St., Berkeley. For directions call 510-525-0694.



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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.  
Post Office Box 1393  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for May issue: Tuesday, Apr. 22<sup>nd</sup>

*[Articles may be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone 510-741-8227, or by e-mail to aa6xz@earthlink.net]*

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## **April Program**

### **"Texx" Woodworth, KG6ATH**

Dave Haycock, KI6AWR, from ARCA (Alameda Radio Club) and part of our northeast bay radio training cabal will be speaking to us about S meter readings and how accurate they may or not be. *[Kristen McIntyre will speak at a later meeting. -Ed]*

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## **Grizzly Peak Bike Ride**

### **Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF**

The Grizzly Peak Century bicycle ride occurs on Sunday, May 4, 2008. Amateur Radio volunteers are needed to provide communications at aid stations, or as SAG vehicle communicators or drivers. This event runs right through EBARC's backyard. Assignments from three hours up are available throughout the day. Please contact Rich Parker, KD6JCT (kd6jct@yahoo.com), or Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF (KA6BQF@ARRL.net) for further information or to volunteer.

## **Treasurer's Report**

### **January 2008**

### **Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer**

#### JANUARY INCOME

Membership Renewals; WA6KCP, K6MMG, WS6V, KB6WC, KE6ZFP, WA6QJT, WI7YN, K5EJL, AF6AQ, KE6ZWN, KI6EHC, W6WTJ, WD6AKC, KI6KOZ, KG6VMA, WB6VEX, KI6CEZ .....\$425.00  
ARRL Membership (KI6CEZ) .....111.00  
Coffee Kitty.....33.30  
Station Fund Donation (KA6BQF) ....200.00  
Total Jan. Income .....\$769.30

#### JANUARY DISBURSEMENTS

Blown Fuse Printing .....\$21.92  
Blown Fuse Postage .....18.04  
AT&T (W6CUS phone) Dec. ....16.52  
AT&T (W6CUS phone) Jan. ....16.52  
ARRL Membership (KI6CEZ-3yrs) .....96.00  
W6CUS liability insurance (Marsh-Seabury-Smith).....325.00  
Total Jan. Disbursements .....\$494.00

#### BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund) .....\$4,509.31  
Savings (Station Fund\*) .....\$3,377.81

\*\$1,169 earmarked for W6CUS Roofing Fund.

*[Note: the checking account balance was the same in the December report - Editor]*

The club's insurance policies are paid for the year. Our equipment insurance was paid in December - \$231 for \$15,395 to insure the operating equipment. January's bill is our general liability insurance, which covers \$1,000,000/\$2,000,000 in case of serious accident - cost \$325. Play safe. Be safe.

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Many thanks to Michael McMillan, K6MCM, for proofreading this month's *Blown Fuse*.

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## **Treasurer's Report**

### **February 2008**

**Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer**

#### **FEBRUARY INCOME**

Membership Renewal; KG6ATH.....\$25.00  
Family Renewal: KE6MSF/KE6SZG ..30.00  
Crab Feed Ticket Sales ..... 1,076.00  
Overpayment (Fred Nieman) .....207.24  
Total Feb. Income.....\$1,338.24

#### **FEBRUARY DISBURSEMENTS**

Crab Feed Deposit (F. Nieman) ..\$1,000.00  
Crab Feed Misc. (B. Jones) ..... 77.34  
AT&T (W6CUS phone). .....18.15  
Total Feb. Disbursements ....\$1,095.49

#### **BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS**

Checking (General Fund).....\$4,770.21  
Savings (Station Fund\*) .....\$3,359.66

\*\$1,169 earmarked for W6CUS Roofing Fund.

A profit of \$205.90 was made at this year's crab feed.

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## **Amateur Radio Technician License Class - Spring 2008**

EBARC, ORCA (Oakland Radio Communication Association) and ARCA (Amateur Radio Club of Alameda) are pleased to announce our upcoming Technician level class. This class is not your typical "Ham Cram" style class, but instead will provide the opportunity to learn about Amateur Radio as well as preparing you for the entry level Technician License.

The class is open to anyone wanting to get their FCC Technician class license.

Classes meet weekly for 5 weeks from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., beginning Tuesday 8th April 2008. The location is Alvarado School, 5625 Sutter Ave., Richmond (559-2660). You can

register at the first class. For directions, see [http://www.wccae.info/Maps/AlvaradoMap\\_Directions.pdf](http://www.wccae.info/Maps/AlvaradoMap_Directions.pdf). The class is free. The manual, *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual (Technician)* is \$25 and is available at HRO, Oakland, or at the first class meeting. The final class on May 13<sup>th</sup> is an ARRL VE exam. For information, contact Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, at [ka6bqf@arrl.net](mailto:ka6bqf@arrl.net) or 526-4089.

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**CORRECTION:** If you need a ride to/from EBARC meetings, contact Mark O'Brien, at 650-776-1817. If you know a ride will be needed, email can be sent five days or more in advance of the meeting to [af6fr@yahoo.com](mailto:af6fr@yahoo.com). Volunteer drivers should also contact him.

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## **General Meeting Minutes**

### **March 14, 2008**

**Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, Secretary**

Randy Jenkins announced the upcoming Technician class and "How To Use Your Radio" class that will start next month at Alvarado School.

Sharon announced that some membership renewals were still coming in.

Jack announced that he will do "contest" mentoring at either the club station or his house for the upcoming WPX SSB contest later this month.

Gordy announced that the profits from the crab feed were \$205 and suggested we start selling tickets earlier next year.

Texx announced that Kristen McIntyre will be the speaker at the April meeting with a presentation she delivered at last year's Pacificon, "Why Ham Radio Works When All Else Fails." This is a non-technical presentation. He also mentioned that the Red Cross participated in a drill with EBARC members at our club station and were very impressed. Although the Red Cross no longer

uses this location, some of their volunteers expressed a desire to continue working with us in the future, utilizing the club station.

Mark O'Brien, ride-coordinator, made an announcement requesting people volunteer to give rides to those who need transportation to club meetings.

Stanton reported that the Red Cross has moved most of its stuff out of the front part of the club station building and that we may want to change the locks.

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## **Silent Key Al Weisman, W5ALW**

Alan Weisman (W5ALW) 1938-2008: "The inventor of the 'T' - top", died on March 1, at age 70. He was a creative, accomplished inventor and community servant. Weisman was known for patenting the 'T'- top found on American sports cars such as the Corvette. After college, Weisman was employed by the automobile manufacturer, Saab, before experiencing a work-related accident. During the following years of physical therapy, Weisman and his wife made their home in Richmond, California, where he undertook entrepreneurial ventures before establishing a second home in Tularosa, New Mexico near the White Sands Missile Range. At various times, he worked on projects for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), designed and built one of the earliest flight simulators for the Bushnell Corporation, constructed working robots for use in Hollywood films, developed self-assembly methods for 'growing' tools, designed devices for preventing carpal tunnel syndrome, and most recently, worked on building a new type of hybrid engine.

Weisman was involved in various community activities including serving on the Marin Amateur Radio Society board, acting as a Volunteer Examiner for amateur radio, and serving as a City of Richmond Commissioner as part of the sister city program with Shimada, Japan. Weisman was an avid automotive hobbyist whose accomplishments included building an electric motorcycle that eventually set a world land speed record for that type of vehicle. Al also enjoyed restoring classic cars. Weisman is survived by his wife, Cherie Hines, his brothers Howard Weisman and Bruce Weisman, three nephews and a niece, and four grandnieces and grandnephews. As an outgrowth of his work with NASA, Weisman's dream was to have his ashes flown into space.

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF,

Marin Amateur Radio Society

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## **Future Bay Area Events**

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Robertson Park, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. Info: Robert 925-560-5646 (h). More info at [www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html](http://www.livermoreark.org/swap/swap.html)
- South Bay Electronics Flea Market, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, March through October, De Anza College, Cupertino. Details at [www.asvaro.org](http://www.asvaro.org). Talk-in on 145.27 MHz (-, 100 Hz PL).
- EBARC, ORCA, and ARCA sponsor joint ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions quarterly at 9 a.m. The remaining dates for 2008 are Apr. 27th, Jul. 27th, and Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>. Tests are in the Media Room, 1605 Martin Luther King Jr. Way (at 16<sup>th</sup> St.), Oakland. The 2008 fee (and retest fee) is \$14. For info call 510-846-1587 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo RACES Training: Details, RACES net, 6:45 p.m., Thursdays on 145.11 MHz.

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$25 for individual membership, \$30 for a family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page [www.eastbayarc.org](http://www.eastbayarc.org), or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

## 2008 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

Jack Burris, K6JEB, President .....	415-305-2547
"Texx" Woodworth, KG6ATH, 1 <sup>st</sup> VP - Program Chair .....	524-7452
Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP – Hospitality Chair .....	526-4089
Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3 <sup>rd</sup> VP - Membership / <i>Blown Fuse</i> Editor .....	741-8227
Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair .....	785-4290
Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, Secretary, Field Day Chair, Web Site Guru, and Publicity Chair .....	525-0694
Ralph Hall, W6EFD, W6CUS Trustee .....	232-0727
Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU, Club Station Manager, Member-at-Large ..	385-4044
John Wood, N6JDW, Education Chair, Member-at-Large .....	741-7050
Bob Bowling, K6ZLG, Member-at-Large .....	233-5749
Joe Lee, W6DOB, Silent Key Chair .....	724-0533
Awards Chair .....	
Social & Digital Committees Chair .....	
Legislative Affairs .....	
RFI Committee Chair .....	
Historian .....	
Mark O'Brien, AF6FR, <a href="mailto:af6fr@yahoo.com">af6fr@yahoo.com</a> , Ride Coordinator .....	650-776-1817

## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TIME	FREQ, MHZ
West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	1845 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
EBARC "Explore Net" (HF)	Mon	1930 (USB)	28.425
KARO/ECHO ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	~1900 simplex	146.415
NALCO RACES/ARES Net	Thurs	1915 (PL 131.8+)	440.900
Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 77-)	146.880
Contra Costa Communications Club Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Tech Net	Thurs	2000 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
"Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net	Mo-Fr	0710 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Northern Calif. Net VHF Session	Daily	1930 (PL 107.2-)	145.410
"Going Home Group"	Mo-Fr	1600 (PL 82.5-)	145.110

Asst. EC West CoCoCo: Steve Adams, KF6WNH, [sadams0584@aol.com](mailto:sadams0584@aol.com); home: 510-236-9770  
work: 510-893-7900 x 270; pager 510-765-4618. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.